

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 13775 261406Z

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T MOSCOW 13775

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS - EXPERTS GROUP I MEETING,  
SEPTEMBER 26, 1975 - TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 18

1. SUMMARY. EXPERTS GROUP I MET FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26. MEETING WAS MAINLY DEVOTED TO ANSWERING SOVIET QUESTIONS ABOUT LANGUAGE OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE PROVISIONS IN DRAFT PROTOCOL I. SOVIET SIDE STATED THAT THEY INTEND TO PRESENT NEW WORDING FOR CERTAIN PARAGRAPHS IN PROTOCOL I AT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 30. SAFRONOV EMPHASIZED THAT THERE IS NO DISAGREEMENT IN SUBSTANCE ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE. SAFRONOV ALSO SAID SOVIETS WILL PROPOSE REORGANIZATION OF TEXT SO THAT INFORMATION EXCHANGE WOULD BE COVERED IN PROTOCOL I AND OBSERVER FUNCTIONS IN PROTOCOL II. SOVIETS RAISED PROBLEM OF EXISTING HOLES. MEETING OF GROUP II SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 29, GROUP I FOR SEPTEMBER 30. END SUMMARY.

2. SOVIETS COMMENTED THAT INFORMATION PROVIDED 90 DAYS BEFORE START OF CONSTRUCTION OF EMPLACEMENT HOLE WOULD BE INCOMPLETE, INACCURATE AND, IN SOME CASES, IMAGINARY, AND THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO PROVIDE INFORMATION 90 DAYS BEFORE EXPLOSION. US SIDE NOTED THERE ARE PROVISIONS IN US DRAFT FOR UPDATING INFORMATION. SOVIETS SIDE MAY FIND ACCEPTABLE MORE LIMITED INFORMATION EXCHANGE 90

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 13775 261406Z

DAYS BEFORE START OF CONSTRUCTION AND REMAINDER AT LATER

DATE.

3. SOVIETS SUGGESTED THAT CONTENTS OF ARTICLE III PARA 2 BE INCORPORATED IN ARTICLE III PARA 1 AND SAID THAT THEY WILL PROVIDE NEW WORDING. COMMENT: IF THIS WERE DONE AS ADVERTISED IT WOULD PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION FOR EVENTS BELOW 50 KT THAN NOW PROVIDED IN DRAFT PROTOCOL.

4. SAFRONOV ASKED WHAT IS PURPOSE OF ARTICLE III PARA 3 SUBPARAS (B), (C) AND (D). US SIDE SAID INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO SUPPORT OBSERVER ACTIVITIES AND TO VERIFY THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF EVENT ARE CONSISTENT WITH STATED PEACEFUL PURPOSE, AND THAT SUBPARA (B) WAS DISCUSSED IN ROUND III. SAFRONOV AT FIRST STATED SOVIET FORMULATION WOULD NOT INCLUDE SUBPARAS (C) AND (D) AND WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT SOVIET OBSERVERS IN THE US WOULD NEED MAPS AND PHOTOGRAPHS HE INDICATED HE WOULD THINK FURTHER ABOUT THE MATTER.

5. AT BEZUMOV'S SUGGESTION SAFRONOV ASKED WHY GEOLOGIC TRAVERSES OF SURFACE WERE NECESSARY. FRYKLUND EXPLAINED IN DETAIL WHY ALL AVAILABLE GEOLOGIC DATA MUST BE EXAMINED BY OBSERVERS. SAFRONOV SAID THAT IF SLIFERS WERE USED TO MEASURE YIELD, LESS GEOLOGIC INFORMATION WOULD BE NEEDED. FRYKLUND SAID GEOLOGIC INFORMATION WOULD STILL BE NEEDED FOR TELESEISMIC YIELD DETERMINATIONS.

6. SAFRONOV SAID THAT AS A POINT OF PRINCIPLE SOVIET SIDE WOULD PREFER TO HAVE PROTOCOL I DEAL ONLY WITH INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND PROTOCOL II DEAL WITH OBSERVERS.

7. REGARDING PROTOCOL II, SAFRONOV EXPRESSED DESIRE THAT PREAMBLE BE QUALIFIED AS TO ACCURACY TO BE SOUGHT IN MEASURING YIELDS OF INDIVIDUAL EXPLOSIONS. HE SAID SOVIET SIDE WOULD PROVIDE SUGGESTED PHRASE TO BE ADDED TO SECOND UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH OF PREAMBLE FOLLOWING "IN EACH GROUP". IT WOULD INCLUDE WORDING SUCH AS "WITH ACCURACY NECESSARY TO VERIFY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT."

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 13775 261406Z

8. SAFRONOV EMPHASIZED THAT, WITH RESPECT TO INFORMATION EXCHANGE, TWO SIDES ARE IN AGREEMENT ON MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE AND THAT SOVIET SUGGESTED CHANGES WILL, IN THE MAIN, BE REWORDINGS.

9. DURING THE DISCUSSION OF TIMING OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE (SEE PARA 2 ABOVE) SAFRONOV NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF PNE EXPLACEMENT HOLES HAD BEEN COMPLETED "BEFORE THESE

MEETINGS". SAFRONOV ASKED WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH SUCH HOLES? FURTHERMORE UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS THE TIME BETWEEN COMPLETION OF EMPLACEMENT HOLES AND DETONATION IS LONG. THIS PERIOD IS INFLUENCED BOTH BY TECHNICAL FACTORS AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

10. THE NEXT MEETING OF GROUP I WILL BE SEPTEMBER 30 WHEN THE SOVIET SIDE WILL PRESENT REWORDINGS. GROUP II WILL MEET SEPTEMBER 29 AT 1400.  
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